ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES

OF THE

FIFTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

Mineral Springs Baptist Association

HELD WITH

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church,

SEPTEMBER 17, 18 AND 19, 1897.

OFFICERS:

G. A. SLOAN, Moderator, - - - - - - Brookside, Ala.
JAMES M. CREEL, Clerk and Treasurer, - - - Morris, Ala.

The next Session of this Association will be held with County Line Baptist Church, (seven miles east of Warrior and one mile north of Smith's Mill), commencing on Friday before the Third Sabbath in September, 1898.

ROBERTS, PRINTER, BIRMINGHAM

ORDER OF BUSINESS.

1. Moderator call the delegates to order and hear the Introductory.
2. Call for letters from the churches.
3. Appoint reading clerks and have letters read.
4. Elect the officers for the year.
5. Call for petitionary letters.
6. Invite visiting members to seats.
7. Call for correspondents from other Associations.
8. Appoint return correspondents.
9. Appoint the different Committees to-wit: Devotion, Sunday School, State of Religion, Temperance, Superannuated Ministers, Deceased Ministers and Deacons, Missions, Education, Finance.
10. Call for report of Executive Board.
11. Call for reports of Standing Committees.
12. Appoint Standing Committees.
13. Appoint time and place of next meeting.
14. Appoint ministers to preach Annual Sermons.
15. Offer thanks and miscellany.

PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY—MORNING SESSION.

MOUNT PISGAH CHURCH, Friday, September 17, 1897.

The Fifth Annual Session of the Mineral Springs Baptist Association assembled in the house of Mount Pisgah Baptist Church, Friday, September 17, 1897, at 11:00 o'clock.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator, Rev. W. D. Shaw, and prayer offered.

Rev. W. C. McLaughlin being absent, the introductory sermon was preached by Rev. Joe Dickerson, of Birmingham Association; text—I Corinthians xii:7. An intermission of fifteen minutes was then taken.

On reassembling the Moderator appointed Rev. J. W. O'Hara, Clerk *pro tem.*

On call for letters eleven were received, as follows: Mount Olive, Enon, Liberty, Chalcedona, New Hope, Antioch, Pleasant Valley, Chalybeate Springs, Hopewell, Mineral Springs, Mount Pisgah.

A. H. Holcomb and G. A. Sloan were appointed Reading Clerks.

Letters were read and received with delegates as follows:

Mount Olive—J. E. Goode and G. A. Sloan; W. C. Fulmer, alternate.

Enon—M. P. Rogers, I. J. Rogers, L. L. Little and W. A Gillespie.

Liberty—W. J. Carlisle, J. V. Creel, A. J. Creel and M. D. Hagood; William R. Guthrie, alternate.

Chalcedona—D. J. Reid, D. D. Shurrel, George W. Turnhan; C. G. Turnhan, alternate.

New Hope—G. W. Red, B. I. Franklin and T. S. Teer.

Antioch—W. W. Statumn, A. Wood, J. M. Sims and J. A. Hodge.

Pleasant Valley—Jesse Williams, W. W. Johnson, A. J. Goodson, Lewis Cox and W. P. Godard.

Chalybeate Springs—T. A. Elliott, W. T. Massey, Franklin Hodges, J. A. Moncrief and M. V. Goodwin.

Hopewell—N. W. Hix, W. C. Franklin, M. R. Marsh, H. T. Dorman and J. M. Marsh.

Mineral Sprlngs—J. T. Hodges, J. G. Hodges and Willis Estis.

Mount Pisgah—W. C. Wingo, David Turner, H. Russell and M. D. Kelley.

The Association then proceeded to elect officers, resulting as follows: G. A. Sloan, Moderator, Brookside, Ala.; James M. Creel, Clerk and Treasurer, Morris, Ala.

On calling for petitionary letters, one from County Line was read by the Clerk, and on motion was received, with the following delegates: W. M. Hannah, A. C. Tadlock and A. H. Holcomb.

The following corresponding delegates were then received:

Sulphur Sprlngs Association—I. C. McCrary; Birmingham Association and Representative of Howard College—Rev. J. W. O'Hara; State Mission Board—Rev. N. B. Williams; Executive Board of Birmingham Association—Rev. Joe Dickerson; Cahaba Valley Association—Rev. B. F. White.

Received some explanations from Bro. Dickerson, and he asked for a conference with the Executive Board of this Association. The Association granted the request.

On motion an adjournment of one hour was taken at 2:00 p. m.

FIRST DAY—EVENING SESSION.

At 3:00 p. m. the Association was called to order by the Moderator.

After singing, prayer was offered by Rev. J. S. Jernigan.

The Moderator appointed the following Committee on Devotion: J. E. Goode, M. D. Kelley and S. M. Sims.

On motion Rev. W. D. Shaw was received as delegate from his church.

The Committee on Annual Report was changed to make report at same meeting as appointment.

The old Committee on Sunday Schools—James M. Creel and W. C. Wingo—was reappointed.

Committee on State of Religion—James A. Moncrief, J. S. Jernigan and H. T. Dorman.

Committee on Temperance—T. S. Teer, Jesse Hodges and B. F. Hughes.

On second call for letters one was received from New Bethel accompanied by the following delegates: R. C. Greathouse, L. H. Shuttlesworth, R. B. Huckabee, John Smith and Rev. G. B. Powell.

New Bethel also called for letter of dismission, which was granted by the Association at the close of the session.

The following additional Committees were then appointed:

Superanuated Ministers—T. A. Elliott, R. C. Greathouse and T. S. Johnson.

Missions—The Association elected the Moderator and Clerk, and the Moderator appointed W. T. Massey.

Education—W. C. Wingo, L. Cox and W. M. Hannah.

Finance—T. A. Elliott, H. T. Dorman and B. I. Franklin.

The report of the Executive Committee was called for, and the Association was notified that the Committee would not be ready to report until second day.

Other committeemen being absent no reports were made.

Devotional Committee report preaching at this place tonight by Revs. B. F. Hughes and J. S. Jernigan.

After singing one piece the meeting was dismissed by Bro. Dickerson until Saturday morning at 9:30 o'clock.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order at 9:30 a. m. by Moderator. Sung one piece and prayer was offered by Rev. James A. Moncrief.

It was moved and seconded that Bro. J. P. Stiles be received from the Birmingham Association.

Letters were called for and none received.

The Executive Committee not yet ready to report and were granted more time.

On calling for report of Committee on Sunday School, James M. Creel asked to be released and his request was granted. James A. Moncrief was then appointed in his place. The report was then laid over until tomorrow at 9:00 a. m.

REPORT ON STATE OF RELIGION.

The following report on the State of Religion was then read and adopted:

We, your Committee on the State of Religion, beg leave to report that we find religion at a low ebb. In some parts of the Association, brethern, we believe that a great deal of this is on the account of the carelessness and indifference of pastors and preachers, and we recommend that churches select sober, humble, faithful men as pastors. Brethern, we beseech you to know them that labor among you.

J. S. JERNIGAN, Chairman.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We, your Committee on Temperance, report as follows: We find that a great many of our members are given to the seemingly harmless habit of dram drinking. Seeing and knowing this to be detrimental to our cause and to the progress of the Master's Kingdom,

1. *Be it Resolved*, That we retain no member who is given to this habit.

2. *Be it Resolved*, That we withdraw fellowship from any church who holds members guilty of this habit.

T. S. TEER, Chairman.

REPORT ON SUPERANNUATED MINISTERS.

We, your Committee find no Superannuated Ministers in our Association. Respectfully,

R. C. GREATHOUSE, Chairman.

REPORT ON DECEASED MINISTERS AND DEACONS.

We, your Committee on Deceased Ministers and Deacons, beg leave to state that God has spared the lives of all our preachers and deacons, as far as known to us, for which let us praise God.

JOHN T. HUGHES, Chairman.

REPORT ON EDUCATION.

We, your Committee on Education, beg leave to submit as follows: We are glad to report that our people are taking a

deeper interest in education than ever before in the history of our people in this section of the country, and we feel it a duty enjoined upon us as a denomination to educate our children both literally and spiritually. We recommend to our young men the Howard College, situated at East Lake, and governed by the best Christian teachers, and to the young ladies we heartily recommend the Judson Institute, which is a female institution. These two schools have done noble work in the past in preparing men and women to be influential and helpful in home, church and state. The great purpose now is to keep the intellectual and moral development alive with each other, in order to be able to teach the highest standards of the world. The Judson and the Howard use the Bible as a text book. Now if these statements be true, it behooves everyone who loves his Master's cause and desires the spread of His kingdom, to support, patronize and work for the Howard and the Judson. May the blessings of God rest upon this Association, and may we be impressed more fully with the necessity of education and use every means to obtain it.

Respectfully, W. C. Wingo, Chairman.

REPORT ON FINANCE.

We, your Committee on Finance, beg leave to make the following report:

CHURCHES	Minutes	Associational Expenses	Home Missions	State Missions	Foreign Missions	TOTAL
New Bethel	$ 2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	$ 7 32
New Hope	1 50	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 50
Hopewell	1 25	.....	2 00	.....	.....	3 25
County Line	75	25	.....	1 00	.....	2 00
Mount Olive	1 00	50	.....	.....	.....	1 50
Mineral Springs	1 25	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 25
Antioch	1 51	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 51
Liberty	2 00	.....	.....	.....	.....	2 00
Enon	1 15	.....	.....	.....	.....	3 94
Pleasant Valley	1 00	.....	1 56	1 00	1 00	3 56
Chalybeate Springs	2 00	....	.....	.....	.....	2 00
Coalburg Second	50	.....	.....	.....	.....	50
Chalcedona	1 35	.....	.....	.....	.....	1 35
Total	$17 31	$ 0 75	$ 3 56	$ 2 00	$ 1 00	$31 68

H. T. Dorman, Chairman.

On motion to select the place of meeting for 1898, the Association chose County Line by unanimous vote.

Rev. Jas. A. Moncrief was elected to preach the Introductory Sermon, with Rev. B. F. Hughes, alternate; and Rev. G. W. Red was chosen to preach the Missionary Sermon, with Rev. J. S. Jernigan, alternate.

Devotional Committee reported preaching at 11:00 a. m. by Revs. N. B. Williams and J. W. O'Hara, and at 7:30 p. m. by Revs. B. F. White and G. W. Red.

At 11:00 a. m. the Association adjourned until 1:00 p. m. for preaching and dinner.

SECOND DAY—EVENING SESSION.

At 2:00 p. m. called to order by Moderator, after singing "Standing by the Cross," and prayer offered by G. W. Red. Letters were received from Second Baptist Church of Coalburg, with the following delegates: H. H. Spelling and J. T. Wynn.

The Temperance Report was read and discussed by G. W. Red, J. T. Hughes, James A. Moncrief, H. T. Dorman and J. W. O'Hara, who said: "If there is a curse in the country it is that of dram drinking."

N. B. Williams and W. D. Shaw request that if they or their church be guilty of this habit, withdraw from them.

Bro. R. C. Greathouse said: "Don't adopt this resolution and not live up to it." Adopted by rising vote unanimously. (See Report.)

Executive Committee's Report was read, received and discussed by T. S. Teer, N. B. Williams and W. D. Shaw, and adopted.

REPORT OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

We, your Committee, submit the following report: We have canvassed the churches in this Association and failed to procure funds to employ a missionary. We have received from all sources for Home Missions $28.00, which has been paid to Bro. Poole for last year's service. Balance due Bro. Poole, $5.76. Foreign Missions, sixty cents.

We recommend that this body cooperate with the Birmingham Association in Mission Work.

T. S. Teer, Chairman.

The following resolution, offered by Rev. J. W. O'Hara, was received, discussed and adopted.

"Whereas, Howard College is the official institution of the State for the denomination for the education of young men, therefore,

"*Be it Resolved*, (1) That it is the desire of this Association that each church appoint a committee to be known as the Howard College Committee, whose duty it shall be to solicit pupils for the college, and make reports from time to time to Prof. F. M. Roof, President, East Lake, Ala.

"*Be it resolved* (2), That we will do all in our power to aid our denominational school, both with our patronage and support."

The following resolution was also adopted: "*Resolved*, That this Association recommend the support of Bro. L. H. Shuttlesworth at Howard College to the churches of this body, and send their contributions to him at the college."

It was moved and seconded to suspend the regular order of business and take up reports against W. C. Wingo for dram drinking, and this church for retaining him. Motion prevailed.

After explanations were given by the church and brethern, it was moved to withdraw fellowship from Mount Pisgah Church until she vindicate herself. On discussion the motion was withdrawn. Mount Pisgah Church called for a conference, and the Association granted it, the time being set for tonight.

The meeting then adjourned until 9:00 a. m. Sunday morning, after dismissal by Rev. J. T. Hughes.

THIRD DAY—MORNING SESSION.

The Association was called to order by the Moderator at 9:00 a. m. After singing "Jesus Lover of My Soul," the Moderator read the fifth chapter of Romans, and prayer was then offered by Rev. W. D. Shaw.

The Moderator then announced the Association ready for business.

Received Bro. J. A. Thomas, as correspondent from Sulphur Springs Association.

The motion to withdraw fellowship from W. C. Wingo and Mount Pisgah Church until they vindicate themselves prevailed by a rising vote. Prayer was then offered by Rev. J. S. Jernigan

in behalf of Mount Pisgah Church. On motion the report on Sunday Schools was deferred until last report.

REPORT ON MISSIONS.

We, your Committee on Missions, are enabled to make the following report: There has been a great deal of Mission Work done in our Association during this Associational year by our ministers and ministers from surrounding Associations. We bid these brethren Godspeed. May the work so well done continue. We are sorry to say the churches are not awake to their duty as they should be.

G. A. Sloan, Chairman.

Pleasant Valley Church called for the Second District Meeting, which was granted—to commence on Friday before the third Sunday in August, 1898. Rev. J. S. Jernigan will preach the Introductory Sermon. Rev. G. W. Red will preach the Missionary Sermon.

The First District Meeting will meet with Liberty Church Friday before the third Sunday in July, 1898. Rev. W. D. Shaw will preach the Introductory Sermon—Rev. B. F. Hughes, alternate.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

We, your Committee on Sabbath Schools, submit the following: From the best information a large number of our churches are without Sunday Schools, but we hope the day is not far distant when each church in our bounds will have a well organized Sunday School, carried on and governed by the Church. Our observation is that those churches that have such schools are our best working churches.

W. C. Wingo, Chairman.

Bros. W. M. Hannah and A. H. Holcomb, of County Line Church, were given leave of absence on request.

The Moderator then appointed the Executive Committee, as follows: G. W. Red, T. S. Teer, B. F. Hughes, J. A. Moncrief and A. H. Holcomb.

Adjourned at 11:00 a. m. until 2:00 p. m. Dismissed by Rev. G. W. Red.

The house being too small the assembly retired to the grove,

and the missionary sermon was preached by Rev. William D. Shaw from I Cor. xvi: 13-14, and Rev. xxii: 9.

A collection was taken up for Home Missions amounting to $6.60.

A resolution of thanks was read.

Dismissed for dinner, which was spread and the people invited to eat.

THIRD DAY—EVENING SESSION.

After enjoying a bountiful dinner, the Association re-assembled in the house at 2:00 p. m., and was called to order by the Moderator.

It was moved and carried the minutes be left with the Clerk for correction, to be assisted by the brethern.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with County Line Church Friday before the third Sunday in September, 1898.

Dismissed by Rev. W. D. Shaw.

RESOLUTION OF THANKS.

Be it Resolved, That this body tender thanks to this church and community for their kindness towards us during our stay with them, and that we pray the blessings of God on them.

JAMES M. CREEL, Clerk and Treas. G. A. SLOAN, Moderator.

FINANCIAL EXHIBIT OF MINERAL SPRINGS ASSOCIATION FOR YEAR 1897.

CHURCHES.	STATE MISSIONS.		HOME MISSIONS.		FOREIGN MISSIONS.	ASS'NAL MISSIONS.	MINUTES.	PASTOR'S SALARY.	SUND'Y SCHOOL EXPENSES.	VALUE OF PROPERTY.
	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash.	Voucher.	Cash	Cash				
Antioch							$1 51			
Chalcedona							1 35			
Coalburg (2d Church)							50			
County Line	$1 00					$0 25	75			
Chalybeate Springs							2 00			
Enon			$1 29		$1 55		1 10	$50 00		
Hopewell				$2 00			1 25			
Liberty							2 00	32 15	$4 00	$600 00
Mineral Springs							1 25			
Mt. Olive						50	1 00			
Mt. Pisgah							1 50			
New Hope			1 50				1 50			
New Bethel		4 32					2 00			
Pleasant Valley		1 00	56		1 00		1 00			
Collections at Ass'ns			6 60							
Total	$1 10	$5 32	$9 95	$2 00	$2 55	$0 75	$18 71	$82 15	$4 00	$600 00

STATISTICS OF MINERAL SPRINGS ASSOCIATION, 1897.

Church.	County.	Pastor.	Clerk.	Clerk's Post Office.	Membership Last Reported.	Increase by			Dec. by		Present Membership	Sunday School.			Preaching Sabbaths.	Reports Prayer Meeting.	Reports Revival.
						Baptism.	Letter.	Restoration.	Letter.	Exclusion.		Officers and Teachers.	Pupils.	Supt. Name and P. O. Address.			
Antioch	Jefferson	W. C. Wingo.	J. H. Wood	Ono	30	....	2	3	....	....	35	....		...	1&3	....	....
Chalcedona	Jefferson	.....	J. T. McPhison	....	54	..	2	....	....	1	55	..		..	....	....	....
County Line	Jefferson	F. Tidwell	A. H. Holcomb	Selfville	7	5	20	.	....	....	32			...	4	....	1
Chalybeate Springs	Jefferson	W. C. McLaughlin	...	...	69	5	11	1	4	....	80	....	....	...	....	....	....
Coalburg (2d Church)	Jefferson	J. J. Colier	H. H. Spellings	Coalburg	3	...	..	....	..	..	23	..	....	...	1	....	....
Enon	Jefferson	M. T. Branhan.	L. M. Little	Morris	74	2	2	....	2	....	76	3	35	L. M. Little (Morris)	2	....	...
Hopewell	Jefferson	J. H. Longcrier	J. M. Marsh.	Gurley's Creek	78	2	...	...	8		72	..		...	....	....	....
Liberty	Jefferson	B. F. Hughes	Jas. M. Creel.	Morris	112	1	3	....	16	..	100	5	47	J. M. Creel (Morris)	3	1	1
Mt. Olive	Jefferson	J. A. Moncrief	J. B. McCormac	...	24	2	...	....	...	1	23	....	....	...	2	....	....
Mineral Springs	Jefferson	J. S. Jernigan	Jesse Hodge	...	25	...	...	....	....	3	23	....	....	...	....	....	....
Mt. Pisgah	Jefferson	W. C. Wingo.	James Turner	....	53	1	2	....	2	....	56	..	....	...	....	..	..
New Hope	Jefferson	J. S. Jernigan	.....	.....	49		5	...	13	10	31	....		...	....	....	....
New Bethel	Jefferson	J. G. Lowery	J. I. Caddell	Warrior	108	7	1	4	12	2	106	6	49	I. A. Creel. (Warrior)		1	1
Pleasant Valley	Jefferson	B. F. White	A. J. Goodson	Redding	39	8	1	1	11	6	32	5	33	W. W. Johnston (Redding)	..		1
Total	.....	.....	.....	.....	500	33	49	9	68	25	..	19	164	.....	.	...	....

777 91 8 1 772

Name of Church organized during year—County Line. Name of Church dissolved during year—Pine Grove.

Name of Church dismissed to other Association—New Bethel.